

'I enjoy also my gardens, and those divers,
parted with
rills of running water, which truly is very
delightful.

Some times of the year I enjoy the pleasure
of the Euganean

hills, where also I have fountains and
gardens, and a very
convenient house. At other times, I repair
also to a village
of mine, seated in a valley; which is,
therefore, very-
pleasant, because many ways thither are so
ordered, that
they all meet, and end in a fair plot of
ground; in the midst
whereof is a church suitable to the
condition of the
place.... In former time it was moorish and
unhealthy,

fitter for beasts than men. But I drained the
ground and
made the air good. Whereupon men flocked
thither, and
built houses with happy success. ... So that
I can truly
say, That I have both given God a Temple,
and men to
worship him in it: The memory whereof is
exceeding
delightful to me/

But there is another prose work
attributed to Herbert,
which has a much more definite flavour—
Jacula Prudentum, 'Darts of the Wise', a collection of
adages. It

may be only partly his; in any case, it is
mainly a compilation; yet this short, sharp wisdom of the
people possesses more true originality than many a
work that flaunts
it. So often their utterance retains a
Shakespearian concreteness of imagery, which the educated
have lost: and
sometimes, even in England, it is lit up for
a moment
by a ray of poetry. Only the other day I
heard one of

them remark * An only child makes three
fools'—an aphor-
ism exactly resembling, in its tart brevity,
many another
in this collection of three centuries before:
1 gave the mouse a hole, and she is
become my heir.
'Whether you boil snow or pound it, you
can have but
water of it.
'Stay till the lame messenger come, if you
would know
the truth of the thing.